

AFTB by night

Army Family Team Building is hosting Level II twice in March to accommodate everyone's schedule. Come join the AFTB volunteers for a day, or night, of learning and networking in the Baumholder community. The class is being offered during the day March 22-25 from 8-11 a.m. in the AFTB classroom. And for the first time ever, the class is also being offered at night March 16-18 from 5-9 p.m. to allow all the working family members to attend. Take advantage of the personal growth classes such as:

Adapting to change, Time Management, Communication Skills, Conflict Management and many more.

Child care is available for the day class as long as the child is registered with CYS and reservations are made ahead of time through Army Community Services. Child care is not available for the evening class. To sign-up for class space or to get more information call ACS at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

Reunion training

Spouse reunion/reintegration training is available every Wednesday at Army Community Service. The class features ideas and suggestions on how to reduce reunion stress, improve marital communications and teaches signal and behaviors that may indicate a need for help.

Free child care and a meal is provided for some of the classes.

Contact ACS today to schedule a group training session with your family readiness group or to find out if one is already scheduled for you. Call mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188 for details.

Reunion training is an integral part of a successful Soldier homecoming.

Tax yourself

Three volunteer tax assistance positions are available at Baumholder's Tax Assistance Center. Prior tax preparation experience preferred, but center officials will train persons willing to learn. For

Post notes



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Reunited at last

Sgt. Leslie Arias reunites with her daughter and husband after a welcome ceremony at the Hall of Champions Feb. 20. Sixteen members of the 90th Personnel Services Battalion were the first of Baumholder's Soldiers to return from Iraq as a group.

more information call mil 485-8644.

Prepare for retirement

The next Army Career and Alumni Program pre-separation and job assistance workshop are scheduled for March 9, 10 and 23, 24 at Baumholder's ACAP Center. No orders are needed to attend and spouses are encouraged to participate. Pre-separation briefings are required by public law no later than 90 days before separation, however, Soldiers are encouraged to begin as early as one year before leaving the military or two years before retirement.

Pre-separation briefings are conducted with the aid of ACAP computers and job assistance workshops are conducted in classrooms

or via a computerized job assistance training application. For more information call mil 485-6330 or civ (06783) 6-6330.

VA briefings

Don't be left out in the dark, attend the next Veteran's Administration briefing March 16 at Baumholder's Army Career and Alumni Program office from 9-11 p.m. Additional briefings are scheduled for April 27, June 8 and July 12.

For further information or to schedule individual appointments with the VA Representative, contact the ACAP office at mil 485-6330.

Attend the next briefing and find out more about education benefits, VA home loan guarantee, disability compensation, and other VA benefits.

Scholarship money

The Baumholder Community Spouses Club is accepting applications for fourth term scholarships. Applications forms are available at the education center and are due to the BCSC by March 19. For more scholarship information call Bonita Owens at civ (06783) 189-914.

March luncheon

The next Baumholder Community Spouses Club luncheon will be March 17 at the Rheinlander Convention Center beginning at 11:30

a.m. Reservations must be made by email at cher.lim@us.army.mil.

Scout around

Girls new to the community or who are just looking for a place to fit in can now register for Baumholder's Girl Scout program. For more information call civ (06783) 900788 or civ (06783) 185236.

Girl Scout week

Girl Scout Week is March 7 through 13 and Baumholder's Girl Scouts have lined up a couple of activities to commemorate the event. The Girl Scouts will observe Girl Scout Sunday March 7. A flag ceremony is scheduled for 4:15 p.m. March 12 at the 222nd Base Support Battalion followed by a birthday party with crafts at the Girl Scout hut. All Girl Scouts are asked to

report in uniform. For more information call Patricia Inbody at civ (01751) 108450.

OCS board change

The date for the 222nd Base Support Battalion Officer Candidate Selection Board has changed to March 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the training support detachment small classroom in Building 8475. The board is open to any qualified enlisted soldier who is interested in becoming a commissioned officer. All application packages must be turned in to the 222nd BSB Adjutant by March 11. For more information call mil 485-6788.

Free golf

Rolling Hills Golf Course hosts a membership drive throughout the month of March. Purchase an annual membership and play nine-holes for free all month long. This offer is valid to new members only. Call mil 485-7299 for details.

Dine with your family

The Rheinlander Convention Center serves a family Sunday brunch March 7. The buffet includes omelettes made to order, bacon sausage, waffles, fruit and more. Contact the Rheinlander at mil 485-7507 for reservations.

Challenge cup

Sign up for the monthly racquetball challenge cup at the Mountaineer Fitness Center. The cost is \$3 and winners are awarded every month. Round robin or double-elimination play will be determined by number of entries. All players must be 17 years of age. Call mil 485-7286 for more information.

Get away

Join Baumholder Outdoor Rec for some little get-a-ways in March. Call mil 485-7182 for detailed information about any of the following trips.

- March 6, Feldberg/Black Forest
- March 6, Frankfurt Zoo
- March 11, Ikea/St. Ingbert
- March 11-14, Kaprun, Austria
- March 19-20, Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic
- March 25, Ikea/St. Ingbert

Tax season here

Tax season is here. The dreaded tax day may not be until April 15th, but why wait? The Baumholder Tax Center is now open and will remain open until June 30. The BTAC is located at Building 8670, next to the Community Bank and is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fridays.

Appointments are now available by calling mil 485-6506 but simple tax returns such as the 1040EZ can be prepared on a walk-in basis. The BTAC offers tax assistance preparation for federal and state income taxes, as well as electronic filing.

Youth of the year eyes greater goals

**Story and photo by
Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava**
*222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office*

If there was ever a dream child for a parent, Kadeja Gaines is the one. She's 16 years old, has a 4.0 grade point average and now she's the 104th Area Support Group Youth of the Year, but she's not stopping there. Already she has her sites set on greater accomplishments.

"This for her is just one piece of the puzzle. She's waiting for the rest," said Teresa Gaines, Kadeja's proud but reserved mother. The next step for here is competition at the U.S. Army in Europe level in Stuttgart later this March.

She's been very humble with it and she's enjoying it, but it's not something that she's taking and running with. She's waiting for the final step ... but she's very grateful that she's been given an opportunity to compete," said Gaines.

The youth of the year competition is part of the Boys and Girls Club of America program, which operates out of local youth centers throughout America and wherever



Kadeja Gaines

Americans are stationed overseas.

The young Gaines credits Mr. Edward Norvell, Teen Center and Teen Café manager, who recommended here for this competition. "I had to submit several letters of recommendation and write a couple of essays to enter the competition," Gaines.

"The first essay was about why

a post high school education is important to me and the other was on what the youth center means to me," she said.

She summed up her first Essay by saying that "Learning is an experience that should not only end when you receive your diploma but throughout your entire life and post high school education is something that helps further that. With a post high school education you can go anywhere and you can take it anywhere."

When writing about the youth center, Gaines said it was simply always there when she needed it. "The youth center for me has always been a place where, if I felt I had nowhere I could go, the people were always there to talk to me. The youth center has always been there for me ever since I arrived in Baumholder," she said.

Kadeja's mother attributes her daughter's success to setting priorities in order.

"We always knew how smart she is and that doesn't come from her being smarter than anyone else, it's just that she applies herself more. The fact that she applies her-

self more, gets straight A's in school, is amazing. There are so many other things that she can get into but she's quick to come home and start on her homework, that's her first priority.

"I'm glad she has her priorities straight, I'm glad she won this award and hopefully she can go further with it," she said.

After her book work, she then makes time for other activities ranging from Girl Scouting to representing Baumholder as the economic and social council delegate for Azerbaijan in the Model U.N. program. Later this month she'll be attending the International Unit Leadership Institute for a week.

But that's not all for the young Gaines. "I'm hoping to do soccer this year. I'm also involved in the jazz band and the high school band, I play tenor sax. Right now I'm also involved in the prom committee.

We're running the school store to make money for our prom," she said.

For Gaines, here only high school experience has been at Baumholder American High School. This is where she began mapping a path to success. And the fact that it is a small school has had its benefits for Gaines. "I think it's really nice how the people are very close because the school is small and the teachers know who you are and are willing to help you," she said.

Sounding like a proud but restrained parent, her mother said "She's a great person to have as a daughter, a good friend and I think that whatever path she chooses in life she's going to follow it until the end," she said.

Kadeja let the cat out of the bag, though, by saying, "My Mom is really excited about all this. She's just bouncing off the walls."

Learning curve Education Center

Learn the lingo

Baumholder's Adult Education Program has scheduled Conversational German I, Conversational German II, Conversational French I, and English as a Second Language courses. Register now for classes beginning March 29. The cost is \$40 per class. Call Bill Badger at mil 485-8891 for more information.

Business, crime

Registration for Term four classes with the University of Maryland and Central Texas College begins March 15 and the term begins March 29. A variety of courses are being offered, from Business Writing to Criminal Justice.

For motor heads

Central Texas College presents the Automotive Electrical Systems course beginning March 29. Register now at the Baumholder Army Education Center. For more information call mil 485-6664.

Be music literate

The world loves music and Baumholder's education center recommends the Survey of Western Music Literature course being offered by the University of Mary-



land. For more information call mil 485-6178 for details.

On account

Baumholder's Army Education center provides for future accountants through the University of Maryland's Principles of Accounting II course beginning in March. Call the college representative at mil 485-6178 for more information.

Master minds

The University of Oklahoma representative visits Baumholder on the first Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The school may be reached at mil 480-6807 on a daily basis. The university offers the master of human relations and master of arts in international relations degrees. A PhD in organiza-

tional leadership is also currently being offered.

Business, teaching

The University of Phoenix representative visits Baumholder on the first Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The university office may be reached at Ramstein daily at mil 480-8993. The university currently offers graduate degrees in Business Administration (MBA) and Teacher/Adult Education (M.A.).

It's criminal

Sherlock Holmes would surely enroll in the upcoming Central Texas College course for criminal investigation beginning March 29. Call mil 485-6664 for more information.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

What's on your mind?

Gen. B.B. Bell, commander, U.S. Army in Europe, talks with students from Baumholder American High School Feb. 17. Bell thanked the students for their many sacrifices while many of their parents were deployed and then fielded numerous questions from the student body. The general then met with family readiness group leaders and addressed numerous redeployment and reintegration issues.

Wagon Wheel Theater rolling again

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Ladies and gentlemen it's show time. Baumholder's Wagon Wheel Theater reopened Feb. 20 after a renovation project that lasted just under one month. Actually, the theater did not fully close during the renovation. "We ran shows daily with people sitting only in the balcony," said Michael Sitrin, business manager for the Kaiserslautern consolidated exchange.

The renovation was a consolidated effort

between AAFES and the 222nd Base Support Battalion, as Sitrin pointed out. "It's been a joint partnership between AAFES, command and Baumholder's directorate of public works. From the AAFES side we've installed a Reel Time Express snack bar and we've upgraded the projection and sound system. Command has installed new flooring and seating," he said.

"We're proud to be a part of bringing an upgraded facility to the military in the Baumholder community. We're glad that we got it done before the Soldiers got home,"

said Sitrin.

The new seating and snack bar are just the first step in a series of renovation projects planned for the theater. Renovation of the theater balcony will be a follow on project. The balcony will be refloored and new seats will be installed. There will also be new paneling installed throughout the bottom section of the theater.

"I want to thank AAFES. This wouldn't have happened without their partnership," said Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion Commander, during the

grand opening ceremony. "It's a great partnership and we haven't stopped here. We have some more projects that we're going to partner with," he said.

"I also want to say thank you to all of you," Buchs told the community members present during the grand opening. "You're my inspiration for wanting to make things better here in this community. You deserve it and again, this is not the only project. This is the first of many. We're going to continue to push forward until somebody tells me to stop and I haven't heard the word stop yet," said Buchs.

Other renovations

Another project under way is the renovation of the bowling center. The entire facility has been gutted out and once it is reopened it will virtually be a brand new bowling center with state of the art equipment.

The center's main entrance, which used to look like a warehouse loading dock, will also take on a new look. Planters and foliage will adorn the entrance and instead of walking up to a couple of fire doors to enter the facility, customers will walk into a lobby that will offer a better atmosphere than its former backstage door appearance.

Inside will be an entire new facility, from snack bar to pin setters.

Money is also being poured into the community for the benefit of Baumholder's youth. A new skate park is under construction and soon there will be a consolidated facility for youth in Wetzel housing. The Underground and Youth Center will be combined into a multi level facility in the building next to their current location.

A project that will affect everyone in the community is the renovation of the main gate at Smith Barracks. The gate is scheduled to open in April and will feature additional lanes and facilities that will expedite force protection procedures. Motorists will no longer need to stand in inclement weather while their vehicle is inspected.

The new gate is intended to enhance force protection procedures, be more convenient to motorists and expedite the flow of traffic into Smith Barracks.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Michael Sitrin, business manager for the Kaiserslautern consolidated exchange, serves cake to customers during the Wagon Wheel Theater's Grand opening Feb. 20.



The Bowling center's renovation will soon have a different appearance. The whole center will feature state of the art equipment.



New theater seating is fitted into place.

PBO poised for supply excellence competition

“I attribute our success to the personnel who work in PBO...”

**Story and photos by
Ignacio “Iggy” Rubalcava**
222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Baumholder’s soldiers marched off to war last year and now they are starting to return home. They are being greeted with much fanfare and the cheers of loved ones and friends during welcome home ceremonies. Then begins a reintegration process that will eventually be followed by their perpetual training cycles.

But behind every successful organization stands an equally successful support element – enter the 222nd Base Support Battalion and the unsung heroes of the supply world and the property book office, who have been recognized by Installation Management Agency-Europe for supply excellence and are now poised for Department of the Army evaluation.

The recognition program, which operates from Fort Lee, Va, is designed to identify supply excellence and compliance with supply discipline within an organization.

“They check things like authorization documents, maintaining property accountability, conducting inventories, receiving supplies, turning in supplies and disposition instructions of supplies and equipment,” said Ronnie Crews, 222nd Base Support Battalion property book officer.

Other key areas evaluated include delegation of authority, authorization documents, turn ins, issues, inventories, Aqualine requests, management control pro-

cedures, petroleum management procedures and mechanical kitchen equipment procedures, which for Baumholder are located in Giesen. “The disposition and discrepancies of our receipts is also looked at,” said Crews.

The way the program is designed, if a unit receives a commendable rating during a command supply distant program evaluation, it is then eligible for competition. The next major command level, IMA-E in Baumholder’s case, then makes a determination to submit an organization for further evaluation. Baumholder’s PBO is expecting a visit by Department of the Army evaluators in April.

“I attribute our success to the personnel who work in PBO and also to the individual primary individual hand receipt holders that we have, who number more than 200. With them supporting us, it contributed to winning the competition. What I mean is that they must

conduct their inventories, keep their hand receipts updated and assist us in accomplishing proper supply discipline,” said Crews.

Just a few of the people Crews was referring to include Eva Kraff, Siglinde Werle, Otmar Müller, Siegrid Schaefer, Sybille Kemmer-Rothfuchs and Rosi Ingledue, all members of the PBO team.



Siegrid Schaefer checks the details.



Sybille Kemmer-Rothfuchs makes an entry at her work station.



Rosi Ingledue tends the customer service desk.



Eva Kraff concentrates on her work.



Siglinde Werle and Otmar Müller keep the paperwork moving.